

JOHN T. ROBERTSON.

[To accompany Joint Resolution No. 34.]

APRIL 13, 1860.

Mr. BINGHAM, from the Committee on the Judiciary, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the petition of John T. Robertson, of Virginia, submit the following report :

The petitioner, John T. Robertson, is the son of James Robertson, jr., now deceased. The said James Robertson was, in the year 1824, appointed collector of the customs for the United States for the port of Petersburg, Va., and as such collector executed an official bond to the United States in the sum of \$20,000, with said John T. Robertson, jr., and others as his sureties, and bearing date April 15, 1824. In the year 1830 said James Robertson, jr., was removed from said office of collector, and was ascertained to be a defaulter to the United States in the sum of \$24,857 50. For the collection of this sum, in pursuance of the act of May 15, 1820, a warrant of distress was issued on the 24th of May, 1830, against said James Robertson, jr., and his sureties, directed to the then marshal of the eastern district of Virginia, commanding him to levy the same and collect the amount. This amount was duly levied on the property of said James Robertson, jr., and also on the property of said John T. Robertson, as his surety. The property of said James was sold, and the proceeds, amounting to \$1,126 01, paid into the treasury August 11, 1830. All the property of said John T. Robertson so levied on came to him by his marriage. In order to effect the release of this property, and retain it in his family, said petitioner agreed with the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to pay the sum of \$5,000, on consideration whereof the Secretary of the Treasury agreed, per his letter of the date of July 12, 1830, addressed to Robert Stannard, esq., United States district attorney, at Richmond Va., that the property of the petitioner should be released from said claim of the government of the United States, on condition that said John T. Robertson would give "such security as should be satisfactory to said district attorney to the government

for the payment of said sum of \$5,000, in annual instalments of \$500 each."

By the letter of Mr. Stannard, district attorney aforesaid, of the date of August 3, 1830, he advised the Secretary of the Treasury that the petitioner had "satisfactorily secured the payment of \$5,000 to the United States, in annual instalments of \$500 each." To secure this payment, the said United States district attorney took from said John T. Robertson a deed of trust on said property, and also his bond to the United States of the date of July 26, 1830, a copy of which bond, marked "A," is hereto annexed and made part of this report.

Upon this bond said John T. Robertson paid instalments into the treasury of the United States from the years 1831 to October 27, 1838, amounting in all to \$4,000, leaving \$1,000 thereof unpaid, and which balance still remains unpaid. On the 7th of July, 1830, said John T. Robertson further paid into the treasury of the United States the sum of \$4,900, all the money which he had then under his control, and which had been paid to him by his father for private purposes, but which said John T. Robertson, upon ascertaining the default of his father, concluded was the money of the government, and voluntarily and *promptly* paid the same into the treasury.

It further appears that said John T. Robertson has no other property than that which came to him by his marriage, and that he has not been able to pay the balance on his said bond by reason of other liabilities which have been thrown upon him as a surety. It further appears that two of the co-sureties of said petitioner became insolvent, and that the only remaining co-sureties were, upon suits brought against their respective executors in the United States district court for the eastern district of Virginia, in the year 1832, adjudged not to be liable on said official bond as sureties of said James Robertson, jr.

From the foregoing it appears that said petitioner has voluntarily and honorably discharged his obligation to the government of the United States to the extent of his ability, and that his co-sureties have been discharged from all liability in the premises, and have not and will not contribute to the relief of the petitioner. The committee are of opinion that, in view of all the circumstances, the government of the United States should relieve said John T. Robertson from any further liability on his said bond of date of July 26, 1830, and should discharge his real estate from all liability for the payment of the same, and do therefore report the accompanying bill in the premises, and recommend that the same be passed.

"A."

Know all men by these presents, that I, John T. Robertson, of the county of Chesterfield, Virginia, am held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the just and full sum of ten thousand dollars, to be paid to the said States, or their assigns; to which payment, well and truly to be made, I bind myself, my heirs, &c., firmly by these presents, sealed with my seal, and dated this 26th day of July, A. D. 1830. The condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above bound John T. Robertson shall well and truly pay, or cause to

be paid, unto the said United States, or their assigns, the sum of five thousand dollars at or before the expiration of ten years from the date hereof, in annual payments of five hundred dollars, the first payment to be made within twelve months from the date hereof, and the other payments within the twelve months thereafter respectively, till the said sum of five thousand dollars be fully paid, then the above obligation to be void, or else to remain in full force and virtue.

JOHN T. ROBERTSON. [L. s.]

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of—
WILLIAM H. MACFARLAND.

TO THE EDITOR:—The following is a list of the names of the members of the American Medical Association who have been elected to the office of the Association for the year 1913. The names are arranged in alphabetical order of the names of the members of the Association.

ALFRED T. BARNES, M.D., Chicago, Ill.

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